Parade 4/19/70

Q. *I have heard Sen. George Murphy from our state say on several occasions that Eisenhower and Nixon were against sending U.S. troops to Vietnam. Is Senator Murphy right?—Thomas Lane, Pasadena, Calif.*

A. Senator Murphy is only half right. President Eisenhower was against sending U.S. troops to Vietnam and refused to do so. But his Vice President Richard Nixon was in favor of the idea. In 1954 at a meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Nixon said in a widely-reported speech: "If in order to avoid further Communist expansion in Asia and particularly in Indochina, if in order to avoid it we must take the risk now of putting American boys in . . . I personally would support such a decision."